## West Creek Recreational Trail Association

301 Chestnut Street Emporium, PA 15834 (814) 486-3439 (814) 486-2716 FAX



Dedicated to the development and management of a multi-use recreational trail from Emporium to St. Marys, Pennsylvania

January 2, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Mercury Building #711 Washington, DC 20423-0001



Re:

Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, Inc. Rail Abandonment Exemption, Cameron and Elk Counties, Pennsylvania; STB Docket No. AB-854X

Dear Mr. Williams:

In reference to the above which proposes the abandonment of the 18.9 mile rail corridor extending from Emporium, Cameron County, PA to St. Marys, Elk County, PA, on October 28, 2003, the Surface Transportation Board granted a Notice of Interim Trail Use to the Counties of Cameron and Elk for a period of 180 days. Cameron and Elk Counties since that time have requested and have been granted a series of extensions to the interim trail use period with the most recent extension to expire January 13, 2007.

In November 2006, Elk and Cameron Counties resolved to authorize the West Creek Recreational Trail Association (hereinafter, the Association) to be the party responsible for representing matters before the Surface Transportation Board. In December 2006, Elk and Cameron Counties transferred the rights and obligations of the corridor to the Association and the Association assumed the financial and legal responsibility of the corridor to be effective January 1, 2007.

The Association is continuing the negotiations with Allegheny and Eastern Railroad to acquire the corridor, however, an agreement has not yet been reached and likely will not be reached by January 13, 2007. Allegheny and Eastern has indicated its willingness to continue negotiations. The Association is therefore requesting a 90 day extension to expire April 13, 2007.

The Association is forwarding a copy of this letter to Mr. David Collins, President of Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, 1200-C Scottsville Road, Rochester, NY, 14624, requesting that Allegheny and Eastern Railroad notify the Surface Transportation Board of its willingness to continue negotiations with the Association to acquire the corridor.

Thank you for your consideration. An additional ten (10) copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use.

Respectfully submitted,

Offin M Class

President

cc:

David Collins - Allegheny and Eastern Railroad

Eric Hocky – Gollatz, Griffin, and Ewing

Control of Proceedings

JAN 8 - 2007

Part of Public Record